# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2304
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2016
Welfare of Construction Workers
Subbareddy Shri Yerram Venkata

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

(a)whether any scheme/programme is being implemented by the Government for welfare and development of construction workers in the country;
(b)if so, the details thereof;
(c)the details and role of the Building and other Construction Workers Welfare Board in the area of welfare of construction workers in the country; and
(d)the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for welfare and overall development of workers including construction workers in the country?

## Answer

(a) to (d): The Government has enacted the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996 and the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996 to regulate the employment and conditions of service of building and other construction workers and to provide for their safety, health and welfare measures.

As per Section 18 of the Building and Other Construction Workers (RECS) Act, 1996, the State Governments/ UTs Administration have constituted State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board for welfare of construction workers. Under the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996, a cess @ 1% of the cost of construction is collected by the State Governments/UTs Administration and given to the their respective State Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Board for meeting the expenses on welfare of construction workers.

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Under Section 22 of the Building and Other Construction Workers' (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, functions of the State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Boards are as under:

(a) provide immediate assistance to a beneficiary in case of accident;
(b) make payment of pension to the beneficiaries who have completed the age of sixty years;
(c) sanction loans and advances to a beneficiary for construction of a houses not exceeding such amount and on such terms and conditions as may be prescribed;
(d) pay such amount in connection with premia for Group Insurance Scheme of the beneficiaries as it may deem fit;
(e) give such financial assistance for the education of children of the beneficiaries as may be prescribed;
(f) meet such medical expenses for treatment of major ailments of a beneficiary or, such dependent, as may be prescribed;
(g) make payment of maternity benefit to the female beneficiaries; and
(h) make provisions and improvement of such other welfare measures and facilities as may be prescribed.
The State Governments/ UT Administrations have formulated their own schemes in terms of Section 22 of the Act.

Central Government has been issuing directions under Section 60 of the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996, to the State Governments/ UTs Administration from time to time for proper implementation of the Acts.

The Central Government vide order dated 8th October, 2015, issued under Section 60 of the Building and Other Construction Workers (RECS) Act, 1996, has directed the State/ UTs to ensure coverage of death and disability due to accident, natural death, pension during old age, health & maternity benefit, financial support for primary & secondary education and skill training for construction workers and their wards.
Further, the Central Government vide Order dated 9th September, 2015, constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Labour and Employment) to monitor the implementation of directions issued under Section 60 of the Act, specifically with reference to utilization of Cess fund for Welfare Schemes enumerated under Section 22 of the Act, by State/UTs Welfare Board.
The Monitoring Committee held its meetings on 23rd November, 2015, 6th January, 2016, 6th April, 2016 and 21st July, 2016 with the Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries, Labour department of State/ UTs.
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